

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: MAEDA, Mituo Conf.:  
Appl. No.: New Group:  
Filed: April 27, 2001 Examiner:  
For: PROCESS FOR PRODUCING THERMOPLASTIC RESIN  
COMPOSITION

#4  
Filed  
Amended  
3-9-02

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

April 27, 2001

Sir:

The following preliminary amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

AMENDMENTS

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

4. (Amended) A process for producing a thermoplastic resin composition according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the hollow spheres have a mean particle diameter of 5-500  $\mu\text{m}$ , and a volume hollowness of 60 - 80%.